

## ABSTRACT

An apparatus for and a method of simulating the functionality of the gatekeeper in a LAN telephony system. The gatekeeper simulator of the present invention permits enables tester personnel to manual manually control of the behavior of the gatekeeper and its environment. The gatekeeper simulation platform utilizes a commonly available computing platform such as a personal computer (PC) adapted so as to have a LAN connection interface such as a commonly available Network Interface Card (NIC), IP communication stack and an H.323 protocol stack. A gatekeeper simulation software application runs over the IP communication stack and H.323 protocol stack which together constitute a LAN telephony platform. The gatekeeper simulator is adapted to simulate any desired request supported by the H.323 protocol suite. In addition, it is adapted to simulate all possible responses to a request as well. Further, it is adapted to simulate the responses selectively and individually for each specific user in the network. In addition, the simulator comprises a pre-programmed address translation table (i.e. IP phone table) that can be configured and programmed by a user to contain the same information it would have contained as a result of IP phones having been registered.